

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1           1.(*currently amended*)       A dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve comprising:  
2                   a rod having a predetermined length;  
3                   a handle perpendicular and attachable to one end of said rod;  
4                   a pig-tail looped hook removal end at the opposite end of the rod from the  
5 handle; and  
6                   a movable bite sleeve surrounding the rod.

1           2.(*currently amended*)       The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim  
2 1 wherein:  
3                   said rod is steel;  
4                   said pig-tail looped hook removal end is blunt; and  
5                   said rod has an angled portion above said pig-tail looped hook removal end.

1           3.(*currently amended*)       The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim  
2 1 wherein:  
3                   said movable bite sleeve surrounding said rod is plastic;  
4                   said movable bite sleeve is sized at least half said length of said rod;  
5                   said movable bite sleeve is cylindrical; and  
6                   said movable bite sleeve is movable on the rod.

1           4.(*original*)   The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   said handle is welded to said rod.

1           5.(*original*)   The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim 1 wherein:  
2                   said handle is cylindrical.

1        **6.(currently amended)**        A method for using a dehooking device with slidable bite  
2        sleeve consisting of a rod having a predetermined length; a handle perpendicular and  
3        attachable to one end of said rod; a pig-tail looped hook removal end at second end  
4        of the rod opposite the handle; and a movable bite sleeve surrounding the rod  
5        comprising the steps of:

- 6            a.        holding the movable bite sleeve close to the handle;
- 7            b.        placing the device on a fishing line leader at a 90 degree angle with the  
8            pig-tail looped hook removal end facing upwards;
- 9            c.        pulling the handle towards a user while maintaining leader tension until  
10           the pig-tail looped hook removal end engages the fishing line leader;
- 11           d.        turning the handle 1/4 turn clockwise so the leader is in the center of  
12           the pig-tail looped hook removal end;
- 13           e.        releasing the movable bite sleeve so it falls to the bottom of the rod;
- 14           f.        inserting the pig-tail looped hook removal end into a mouth of an  
15           animal;
- 16           g.        inserting the movable bite sleeve into the mouth of an animal;
- 17           h.        sliding the rod further into the animal, following the leader;
- 18           i.        giving a sharp jab downward on the handle when the pig-tail looped  
19           hook end is resting on an ingested hook;
- 20           j.        pulling the rod out of the animal until it stops at the movable bite  
21           sleeve; and
- 22           k.        removing the entire device from the animal when the animal opens its  
23           mouth.

1        **7.(original)**    The method claim of claim 6 wherein:  
2        said animal is a fish.

1        **8.(original)**    The method claim of claim 6 wherein:  
2        said animal is a turtle.

1       **9.(original)** The method claim of claim **6** wherein:  
2               said animal is a shark.